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**Private Debates**  
**IN THE**  
*House of Commons.*  
**In the Year 1677.**

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Private Debates



House of Commons.

In the Year 1877.

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IN THE  
House of Commons,

IN

# Together

With a DISCOURSE

LONDON,

Printed, and are to be Sold by J. Nutt, near  
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British Museum

Thomas Thrift

June 22. 1873

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British Museum

for the purchase of  
a copy of the  
"History of the  
British Museum"

by King George II. to the  
British Museum



in order to procure a lasting record of  
the history of the  
British Museum

LONDON  
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St. James's Hall, 1873.

# **T**he **T**hrift

## **A** **DISCOURSE**

**Shewing**  
**The absolute Necessity of a WAR**  
with *France* on this critical Juncture,  
in order to procure a lasting Peace  
at Home.

*By a Person of Honour.*

**T**HE Addresses that have lately appear'd from all Parts of the Kingdom, so effectually demonstrate the present Genius and Temper of *England* to beat for a vigorous War against *France*, that perhaps so Universal and warm a Disposition never shew'd it self, in all Ranks and Degrees of People amongst

*A Discourse, &c.*

mongst us, in any Period of our History. And, indeed, if any Nation in the World ever had just and invincible Motives to engage in a War, it must be on all hands acknowledged that this is our Case at present.

Even in an effeminate Reign, when our Ministry would fain have lulled the Nation a Sleep, by representing to 'em that the Flame of War was either too remote, or too feeble to affect our Dominions; yet to the Immortal Honour of the Parliament in 1677, be it observed our Patriots were so sensible of the growing Power of *France*, and the daily encroachments it made upon its Neighbours, that they resolved, at any rate, to circumscribe it within its due Bounds: But King *Charles the Second*, either because he was really engaged in the Interest of *France*, by the Artifices of some about him; or because he was diffident of his People

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ple, because he had given 'em but too much occasion to be diffident of him, or perswaded thereto by his Ministers, who expected to be made Sacrifices whenever the Kings necessities should oblige him to comply with the Demands of both Houses, made all applications of this Nature impracticable, as the impartial Reader will easily perceive by the following *Debates*.

But the Face of Affairs, both in relation to the security of *England* in particular, and the Liberties of *Europe* in general, has been wonderfully changed since that time. As formidable a Figure as *France* made in 1677, yet the better part of *Flanders*, then in the hands of his Catholick Majesty, was thought a Barrier sufficient for the *Dutch*; the Monarchy of *Spain*, tho' in a declining Condition, however was wholly under a *Spanish* Administration; the Peace of *Italy* seem'd to be secure

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enough



### *A Discourse, &c.*

enough while *Milan* on one side, with *Naples* and *Sicily* on the other, were under the immediate Direction of the Court of *Madrid*; the *West-Indies* too, were under no danger of sending their Treasures, the Sinews of War up the *Line*, instead of bringing them to *Cadiz*.

If *France* then, supported only by its own Territories, and the acquisition of a few Provinces in *Flanders*, and upon the Frontier of *Germany*, appeared at that time so terrible as to give dismal Allarms to all its Neighbours, what ought we not to apprehend since the surprizing Coalition of that Kingdom with *Spain*, and how precarious must our Condition be, when two such Powerful Monarchies are influenc'd by the same Counsels, and govern'd by the same Head?

The Treaty of *Reswick*, concluded after so long and expensive a War, by which *France* was obliged to surrender

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render up so many Cities and Provinces to their Ancient and Rightful Proprietors, made some credulous and sanguine People among us conclude, that its haughty Monarch was brought to much lower Extremities than really he was; not considering, that a cunning Gamster will sometimes let the Cully win a little Money of him to engage him deeper in play, since he knows he can call it back into his own Pockets whenever he pleases.

'Tis a plain case that *France* was not reduced to so low an ebb at that time, as some of our purblind Politicians would have perswaded us: She had her Eyes wholly fixed upon *Spain*, whose Prince in all Human probability must go the way of all Flesh in a few Months after; and she knew, that if she managed her Cards aright, not only those Towns in *Flanders*, with their Dependances, which she had thrown up at the Treaty, would  
come

*A Discourse, &c.*

come back again into her Hands, but likewise the whole *Spanish* Monarchy without striking a blow for it.

To bring this about she pretended a more than ordinary concern for the Tranquility of *Europe*, which, as she gave out, would inevitably be destroyed in case the House of *Austria* came to inherit *Spain*, with all the Provinces belonging to it. For prevention of which she set on foot the *Partition-Treaty*, and by what Magic Enchantments she cast such a Mist before the Eyes of our Politicians I can't imagine, both *England* and *Holland* were unorderly drawn into the Net.

Had this Proposal come from any other part of the World but *France*, which never observed a Treaty any farther than it consisted with her Ambitious Designs, and has Sacrificed the most Sacred Engagements when they did not make for her turn, I could have excused our Ministry

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nistry for being seduced by so spacious a Bait, which carried the appearance of settling the Repose and Peace of *Christendom*.

But as it came from *France*, I can't tell whether it shew'd more Impudence on their side to set up for Peace-makers, after they had involved the whole *Western* World in Blood and Ashes so many Years, or more Security and Blindness (to give it no harsher a Name) on our side, to believe 'em after so many notorious Violations of the most Obligatory Treaties.

For I will appeal to any considering Man, what other effect could this Partion-Treaty produce than to make the *French*, who were already too Powerful, more capable of annoying us and the rest of the World when ever they pleased, to disgust both Branches of the House of *Austria*, to make the *Portuguese* distrust, and lastly the *Spaniards* hate us, for  
plun-

*A Discourse, &c.*

plundering him of the best Jewels of his Crown against his consent, and this without the least pretence of Equity.

Was is not natural to imagine that the Grandees of *Spain* rather than see so many Principalities Dismembred, and given away from their Crown, by those who had no right in the World to dispose of'em, would throw themselves into the Arms of a Puissant Prince who was in a capacity to protect them? Could any Man of the meanest Capacity believe, that they would see *Flanders, Milan, Naples, Sicily, Sardinia, &c.* wrested out of their Hands, by the Governments of which places they used to lick themselves whole again, when they had empair'd their Estates?

This, I don't doubt, gave the first occasion to the late Mysterious Will of *Charles II. of Spain*; for tho' I have no great opinion of the Integrity of the Popish Church-men, yet I can hardly



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hardly believe that Cardinal *Portocarrero* would have ventured to impose any sham Will upon the Kingdom of *Spain*, had there been not a very good Intelligence betwixt him and the *Grandees*, who must have suffered so much in their Fortunes, had the intended Treary of Partition taken effect.

No sooner was this unaccountable Will published to the World, but *France* immediately began to vary her Language, and the Partition, which she looked upon before to be the only means to preserve the Peace of *Christendom*, was now turn'd out of doors as a vain impracticable Expedient, and these blessed Peace-makers gave out, that nothing but keeping close to the Letter of the Will could secure it.

We know 'tis the usual practice of most Countries, to alter their System of Politicks according to the different situation of their Affairs, and thus

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*A Discourse, &c.*

we find that this blind Doctrine, viz. That 'tis in the King's power to dispose of his Kingdom by Will, which passes for Orthodox under *Lewis le Grand*, was not always the received Doctrine of *France*. To prove which we need only observe her King *Philip*, one of the present *French* King's Ancestors, was of another Opinion: For when the *Pope* sent his Apostolical Commands to him to hinder his Son *Lewis* from invading *St. Peter's Patrimony* (so the old Gentlemen was pleased to call *England*, because our King *John* had made a shameful Resignation of it to his Legate *Pandulphus*) *Philip* sturdily replied, that *England* was none of *St. Peter's Patrimony*, no King having power of himself to alienate his Kingdom.

However it is, 'tis plain that by this and some other false steps of our Ministry, which I purposely omit because I would rather make up than open our Breaches, the Balance of

*Europe*

*A Discourse, &c.*

*Europe* is come to be entirely lost, and until it is restored again, we must either truckle to a haughty arrogant Tyrant, which every honest *Englishman* must abominate; or if he should think fit to let us alone, which is hardly to be supposed, the very Peace we shall enjoy at his Courtesie will be attended with all the real Inconveniences of an actual War.

For our Quarrel now with *France* is not like the Contest of our Ancestors with it heretofore, when for the Detention of some inconsiderate Province, as *Normandy, Anjou, Guienne, and Aquitain*, at that time belonging to the Crown of *England*, we carry'd our Victorious Arms into the Bowels of that Kingdom, or when we attempted the recovery of all *France* for want of Issue, devolv'd to us, which was the pretence of *Edward III.* and was afterwards prosecuted by *Henry V.* No, the Tables are turn'd, neither all *France*, or part of it, is the Stake

*A Discourse, &c.*

Stake we contend for, but *England*, and surely every Man knows what is included in so emphatical a Word.

We can, as Experience shews, live well and happily enough without *Normandy*; nay, the whole Dominion of *France*, wick carried along with it a greater effusion of Blood, and more than the Conquest of it was worth; but we cannot live without our Liberty, which alone makes Life palatable; without our Laws, Transmitted down to us for so many Ages; without our Religion, which every Vertuous Man ought to esteem dearer than his Life; all which must unavoidably be destroy'd and torn from us, if the Exorbitant Greatness of *France* is not humbled and repress'd.

What makes our Case the more dangerous still, we have to deal with a proud Monarchy, of no Honour or Integrity, that never scruples to break thro the most Sacred Obligations to gratifie his own insatiable

*A Discourse, &c.*

insatiable Ambition, and who never valued any Treaty whenever it in the least clash'd with his Interest.

Were he a Prince that paid any regard to the Common Principles of Honour, and Morality, we might perhaps flatter our selves that after he had settled his Grandson upon the Throne of *Spain*, he will consider him as a Brother Prince wholly independant of him, and not as a Younger Son of *France*: But as things are Managed at present, *Madrid*, we find, it wholly influenced by *Versailles*, and *Philip* the 5th as much obliged implicitly to follow the Orders and Instructions of *France*, as if he were a Vassal that owed Homage to it.

Having mentioned our Religion, our Laws, and Liberties, which must inevitably be Swallowed up in the most ignominious servitude, if care is not taken, to humble and reduce  
a this



## A Discourse, &c.

this common Enemy of Mankind, it may seem needless to add, that the most Valuable Trade we possess, and which indeed enables us to support the expence of the rest, will soon be lost to us, and run in a new Chancel, if *France* is suffer'd to carry on her Design without interruption. So that if any People in the Universe ever entered into a fair, a just, and Honourable War, I may affirm it of our selves in this present Conjunction, and after the unworthy Treatment we have received.

Have we not seen, the pretended Prince of Wales declar'd King of *England, Scotland and Ireland*, and thereby King *William's* Title to these Realms, vacated and extinguished, as much as lay in the *French King's* and this without any manner of Provocation, in the time of a profound Peace, directly contrary to an express

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press Stipulation of the Treaty of  
*Reswick.*

Have not our Ships been Deny'd  
Water, and other Necessaries, in the  
Ports of *Spain*? Has not all imagi-  
nable care been taken to destroy our  
Commerce, which is the Life and  
Soul of our Island? Was not the a-  
bove Mentioned Partition-Treaty  
Fraudulantly imposed upon us, and  
afterwards as dishonestly rejected?  
Have not our Allies, the *Dutch*, been  
turn'd out of their cautionary Towns  
in *Flanders*, tho' they own'd the  
Duke of *Anjoy's* Accession to the  
Crown of *Spain*, which at first was  
given as a reason for turning them  
out, and have they not been forc'd  
to lay great part of their Country  
under a merciless Element, to save  
the rest from a far more merciless E-  
nemy?

## *A Discourse, &c.*

If so many Affronts and Indignities done to our selves, and Confederates; if so many violent acts of Oppression and Injustice, will not revive our Ancient Genius, and animate us with those just Resentments, which ought to inspire a free born Nation after so long a forbearance, shall despair of finding any other argument capable to rouse and excite us.

In case of an Invasion from the *Gauls* (even in those times a populous and formidable People to all their Neighbours) the *Romans* obliged their very Priests that attended at their Altars, and such Disbanded Soldiers, as by the Constitution of their Government were discharged from all farther Military Service, to take the Field against a Barbarous Enemy, that would have all, or no-  
thing

## A Discourse, &c.

If we look upon the Modern *French* to be a better and a Civiler Enemy, than their old Ancestors the *Gauls* were; or if we are less sensible of the Danger of an Invasion from 'em, than the Valiant *Romans* were, (for 'tis no sign either of Valour or Discretion to despise ones Enemy) I am afraid we shall find our selves lamentably mistaken in our Politics, and repent of our Stupidity when the Game is past retrieving.

We have a fair Opportunity at present to settle the Balance of *Europe*, and to give check to the insupportable arrogance of *France*. All *Christendom* is justly concern'd, as it ought to be at the common Danger that threatens it: The *Emperour*resents the high injustice done to his Family, as becomes a Prince of his eminent Station; the *Hollanders*, have augmented the Number of their Land Forces to a degree above what  
one

*A Discourse, &c.*

one would imagine a Republick of so small an extent could maintain; the People of *Milan* and *Naples*, seem to be weary of their new Masters, and desirous to fall again under the gentle sway of the House of *Austria*; and indeed to the constant intelligence given by the former, we may reasonably enough ascribe great part of the success Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* found in this last miraculous Campaign; the King of *Denmark* furnishes not only the *Emperour* but the *Dutch* with a considerable Body of Men; his *Prussian* Majesty has espoused the Interest of *Europe* with all the Zeal and Vigour that can be expected from him; and when by the *Emperour's* Meditation, the unhappy Broils in the *North* come to be composed, there is no question but the King of *Poland* will assist the *Emperour* with his Troops upon the *Rhine*, since to him chiefly he owes his Elevation to the Regal dignity.

The



### *A Discourse, &c.*

The *Swedes* likewise, being a Feudatory to the *Empire*, will in all probability fall into the same Measures, especially since he will find it his Interest to do so. As for the Republick of *Venice*, the *Pope*, and the other Princes of *Italy*, who can doubt but when they see so many Alliances concerted, they will join in the common Cause of *Europe*; and to our comfort be it remember'd, that *Portugal* is already heart-sick of her new Engagements with *France*.

If *England*, upon whose conduct the Eyes of *Europe* are fixt at present, leaves aside her private Animosities and Quarels to mind Affairs of the last importance to her; if she shows her self hearty and chearful in enabling King *William* to maintain his Forreign Alliances, and carry on the War with Vigour, then by the divine Providence favouring so just a Cause, we may reasonably expect to  
see

## A Discourse, &c.

see the arrogance of *France* to humbled, that she will not be able for some Years at least, to annoy her Neighbours, since like Marrying with an Ancient but Empoverish'd Family, *Spain* is so far from being a support, that she is rather a new Charge and Expence to her.

Private



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**PRIVATE**

# DEBATES

IN THE

*House of Commons;*

(Began Monday, May 21, 1677.)

In Relation to a W A R with  
*France, &c.*

**T**He Parliament met  
according to their  
late Adjournment,  
from *April* 16th.  
to the 21st. of *May*, 1677.  
B There

2     *Debates on Alliances,*

There was no Speech to the Parliament, but in the House of Commons.

This Meeting was opened with a Verbal Message, delivered by Mr. Secretary *Coven-try*; wherein his Majesty acquainted the House, That having according to their desire in their Answer to their last Message, *April* the 16th. directed their Adjournment to this time, because they did alledge it to be Unparliamentary, to grant Supplies when the House was so thin, in expectation of a speedy Adjournment. And having also issued  
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out his Proclamation of Sum-  
mons. To the end there might  
be a full House, he did now  
expect they would forthwith  
enter upon the Consideration  
of his last Message And be-  
cause he did intend there  
should be a great Recess very  
quickly.

Upon this, it was moved,  
That the King's last Message,  
of the 16th. of *April*, and the  
Answer thereunto, should be  
read; and they were Read ac-  
cordingly.

Thereupon, after a long  
Silence, a Discourse began a-  
bout



4      *Debates on Alliances,*

bout their Expectation, and the necessity of Alliances ; and particularly it was intimated, That an Alliance with *Holland* was most expedient: For that we should deceive our selves, if we thought we could be otherwise defended: For we alone could not withstand the *French*, his Purse and Power is too great ; nor could the *Dutch* withstand him alone, but both together might,

The general Discourse was, That they came with an expectation to have Alliances declar'd ; and if they were not made so as to be imparted, they

*and War with France.* 5

they were not Called, or come to that Purpose they were desired, and hoped to meet; and if few days might ripen them, they would be content to Adjourn for that mean time.

The Secretary & *al.* said, These Alliances were of great weight and difficulty, and the time had been short. But if they were finished, yet it was not convenient to publish them, till the King was in a readiness and posture to prosecute and maintain them; till when, his Majesty could not so much as speak on't,

6 *Debates on Alliances,*

or insist upon his words. That without 600000 *l.* it would not be possible for him to speak, or act those things which should answer the ends of the several Addresses without exposing the Kingdom to a much greater Danger.

By others it was observed, and said, That they met now upon a publick Notice by Proclamation, which Proclamation was in pursuance of their last Address, in which they desired the King they might Adjourn to such a time, as within which (they hoped) the Alliances

liances might be fixed, so as to be imparted ; They mentioned not any particular day. If his Majesty had not thought this time long enough for that purpose, he might have appointed the Adjournment for a longer time. Or he might have given notice by Proclamation, that upon this Act they should Rejourn to a yet longer time.

But truly the time hath been sufficient, especially considering the readiness of the Parties to be Allied with ; it is five Weeks since our Re-

B 4

cess.

8      *Debates on Alliances,*

cess. He that was a Minister chiefly employed concerning the *Triple League*, has published in Print, that the League was made in five days. And yet this might well be thought a matter more tedious, and longer than this. For when a People are in a profound Peace (as the *Dutch* then were) it is not easie to embrace them presently into Leagues. They have time, and may take time for great deliberation. But here the People are in desire of War, and need our Alliance: And therefore it might be contracted with Ease and expedition,



dition, were we as forward as they.

Neither is five Weeks the limit of the time that hath been for this Purpose. For it is above ten Weeks since we first addressed for these Alliances.

And as to the Objection, That it was not fit to make them known before Preparations were made; it was said, that the force of that lay in this; That the *French* would be alarm'd. To which it was answered,

10 *Debates on Alliances,*

answered, That the asking and giving Money for this purpose, would be no less an alarm; For the *French* could not be ignorant of what Addresses and Answers have passed. And if Money be granted to make Warlike Preparations for the ends therein specified, it is rather a greater discovery, and denouncing of what we intend against the *French*.

*Lib. 2. Cap. 2.*  
*Sect. 39. & alib.*  
Lord Bacon's Essay of Empry.

*Grotius (de jure Belli & pacis)* If a Prince makes extraordinary Preparations (a Neighbour Prince being affected

*and War with France.* 11

fectcd by them) may expostulate and demand an account of the Purpose for which they are intended, and if he receive not Satisfaction, that they are not to be used against him, it is a cause of War on his part, so as the Neighbour may begin, (if he think fit) and is not bound to stay till they first prepare and begin actual Hostility, and this is agreeable to Reason, and the nature of Governments.

Now, the *French* King is a vigilant Prince, and has wise Mini-

12 *Debates on Alliances,*

sters about him; upon which General Account, though we had not (as we have seen) an Extraordinary *French* Embassy here, during our Recess, We should suppose that the *French* King has demanded an account of our King's Purpose, and whether the extraordinary Preparations (that are begun to be made) are design'd against him or not. In which case his Majesty could give one of these three Reasons.

Now the French King is a  
the Prince, and his wife  
Min-  
I. To

I. To say, they are not design'd against him, and then His Majesty may acquaint us with the same, and then there is no reason of giving Money.

II. To say, they are design'd against him. In which Case, His Majesty may very well impart the same to us, for it were in vain to conceal it from us, to the end that the *French* might be alarmed, when it is before expressly told the



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the *French*, that the Design was against them.

III. To give a doubtful Answer, But that resolves on the Second : For when a Prince out of an apprehension that extraordinary Preparations may be used, desires a Clear Categorical and Satisfactory Answer concerning the Matter (as the manner of Princes is.) A dubious Answer does not at all satisfy the Enquiry, or allay his Jealousie. But in what Case it is, and is used to be

*and War with France.* 15

be taken, and understood that the Forces are design'd against him. And if His Majesty have given no Answer at all (which is not probable.) It is the same with the last. So that this being so, by one means or other, the *French* have the knowledge of the King's Purpose. And if it be but known so, or but guessed at by them, why is this conceal'd from the Parliament? why this Darkness towards us?

Besides

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Besides, we expect so much as we would hope for, so long as we are afraid the *French* should have known what we are a doing.

In this State of Uncertainty and Unripeness, the House Adjourned to *Wednesday* Morning Nine of the Clock, and having first ordered the Committee for the Bill for recalling His Majesty's Forces out of the *French* King's Service, to Sit this Afternoon, which did Sit accordingly, and went through the Bill.

*Wednesday*

*Wednesday May 23, 77:*

His Majesty sent a Message for the House to attend him presently, at the Banqueting-House at *White-Hall*: Where he made a Speech to them. After which, the Commons returning to the House, and the Speech being there read, they presently resolved to consider it, and after a little while, resolved into a Committee of the whole House, for the more full, free, and regular Debate.

C

The

The Secretary and others, propounded to supply the King; wherein they said, They did not press the House, but they might do as they pleased.

But if it were expected that Alliances should be made, and known, there must be 600000 l. raised to make Preparations before; for the King declared, That without it, it was not possible for him to speak or act, &c. He could not safely step a step further. The King had the Right of making Peace, and War, and Leagues,

as



as this *House* has of giving Money.

He could not have Money without them, and the Alliancy without him.

The King considered this Matter, and this was his Judgment ; That he ought by such a Sum, to be put into a posture to maintain and prosecute his Alliances ; before they could or should be declared, our Nakednesses, or Weaknesses would be exposed, (because) 'tis true, as has been objected, the asking and giving Money, for this purpose, would alarm as much as the

C 2

decla-

20 *Debates on Alliances,*

declaring of Alliances: But then it will defend too; a Whip may alarm a Wild Beast, but it will not defend the Man.

We know the King would strip himself to his Shirt, rather than hazard the Nation. He has done much already, he has set out and made ready to set out forty-four Ships. But they must be distributed to several places for Convoys &c. There would need ( it may be ) forty more in a Body, and it is difficult to get Sea-men, many are gone into the Service of

*and War with France.* 21

of the French and Dutch and  
the King is forced to Press  
now

The King hath not had any  
fruit of the 200000 *l.* Credit  
provided him upon the  
three years Exercise.

He has tryed the City to  
borrow mony of them there-  
upon, and my Lord Mayor  
returned Answer, that he had  
endeavoured, but could not  
encourage his Majesty to de-  
pend upon the City for it.

Several others somewhat  
differing speak to this Effect.

We should consider in this Case as in the Case of the Kings Letters Patents, Proclamations &c. If any thing in them be against Law and Reason, the Lawyers and Courts end it void, and reckon it not, to be said or done by the King.

For the King can do nothing wrong, tho' his Council may.

So we must look in the Kings Speeches and Messages as the product of Council. And therefore (if any mistake be) it must be imputed to the

the Error of his Council, and it must be taken the King never said it.

Now to apply: certainly the Treating and Concluding of Alliances requires not a previous Sum of money; However the Kings Council may misinform him, they may be propounded and accepted here by the means of the Foreign Ministers, even without an Ambassy to be sent hence.

And yet if they were requisite, it were not an Extraordinary Charge.



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Alliances may be made forthwith, and then money would be Granted forthwith.

If they were declared today, the 600000 *l.* would be given to morrow, and more as occasion should require.

And there is no fear but money would be found for this purpose.

Our own Extravagances would maintain a War.

The Money that has been provided the King, already this Session, is sufficient for all preparations that can possibly be made, before those Alliances are made.

For-

Forty Ships of ours with the help of the *Dutch* are a good defence against the *French* at Sea, now he is so intangled in *Sicily*, the *West-Indies*, &c.

In the Triple-League it was stipulated, that Forty of our Ships, and Forty of the *Dutch*, should be provided, and they were thought sufficient for the purpose.

If it were requisite that Forty more Ships should be set out, 600000 *l.* is enough to maintain and pay them a whole

26 *Debates on Alliances,*

whole Year for the Carpenters work and the like, as should presently be requisite, for fitting them to go out, a little Money would serve. And surely this is the only Preparation that can be meant, That we should fortifie the Land with *FORTS*, Garrisons, Walled Towns, &c. It is not six Millions will do it; but our Strength, Force and Defence is our Ships.

For the Debate of this day, it is as great and weighty as ever was any in *England*: It concerns our very Being, and includes our Religion, Liberty,

ty, and Property. The door towards *France* must be shut and Guarded; for so long as it is Open, our Treasure and Trade will creep out, and their Region will creep in at it. And this time is our Season; some Mischiefs will be done, and so there will be at any time when the War is begun, but now the least.

The *French* is not very dangerous to us now, nor to be much feared at this present. But we ought to advise and act so now, as we need not fear or despair hereafter: When the *French* will make  
Peace

28 *Debates on Alliances,*

Peace Beyond-Sea, and likely he will make Alliances with those People, with whom we defer to make them. How ripe and great will our Misery be then !

The Power and Policy of the *French* is Extraordinary, *His Money* influenceth round about him; We are glad to observe what is said by the King. That His Majesty agrees with us in the end, and we hope he will be convinced of the unreasonableness of the means which is to make and follow these Alliances, without plainly, we can give no  
account



*and War with France.* 29

account to our selves, or those we represent, of giving Money. We have made several Addresses about some of the King's Ministers, their Management, &c. Of which we have seen little Fruit.

There have continually almost to this Hour, gone out of *England*, Succours to *France*, of Men, Powder, Amunition, Ordnance, &c. Not to rake into the Matter, how far the Ministers have been Active, or Passive in this, nor to mention any other Particulars, we must say, (that unless) the Ministers, or their Minds, are

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are altered, We have no reason to trust Money in their Hands, tho' we declare, we have no reason to declare or attempt upon them. But could rather propose to them an easie way how they might have an Oblivion, nay, and the Thanks of the People, (*viz.*) That they should endeavour and contend who could do most to dispose the King to comply with this Advice of his Parliament.

We think (the prosecuting these Alliances) the only good use for which Money can be employed.  
And

And therefore before we give,  
we would be secured, it should  
be employ'd to this purpose,  
and not by Mis-counsels be  
directed to others.

This is the mature Coun-  
sell of the Parliament, and no  
cross or evil Counsell is to be  
receiv'd or trusted, for attain-  
ing these great ends, which the  
King and Parliament are a-  
greed on.

It was an Error committed  
in the late King's time, and  
which looks as if Men had  
given Counsell on Purpose to  
destroy that good King, had  
he

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he not by the care and faithfulness of Bishop *Juxon*, and others, collected and preserved a good Sum of money, before the *Scotch* Rebellion, in 1639.

Upon that Rebellion, he was advised to raise an Army at Land, which indeed was necessary. But he was likewise advised, to set out several of his great Rate Ships. This appear'd in the Papers of Sir *Robert Long's* Office, and may there be seen still, if the Papers are not scattered. A Man cannot tell for what end this Advice was given, unless  
to

to spend the King's Money. For the Admiralty of Scotland is not now, and much less was it then so considerable as to require any such force against it.

And if the Design was to hinder their Commerce and Succours by Sea, the Charge of one of those great Ships might have been divided, and applied to the setting out of five or six lesser Ships, each of which, was capable of doing as much for that Service, as such a great one, and would abide at Sea longer.

D

This



This is a plain Case, That unless the Power of *France* be lowered, we cannot be Safe: And without our Conjunction with the other Confederates, that cannot be done.

The Question is Whether this present time is the proper time for this Work? Certainly it is. For now there is a happy Confederation against the *French*, which we cannot hope so well to have continued, without our coming into it, if once the same be broken.

The

The very Season of the Year favours the Business. It's proper and safe to begin with the *French* in the Summer, now he is engaged, and not at leiafure. Whereas, in the Winter, when the Armies are drawn out of the Field, he will be able to apply himself to us.

As to the Citizens not advancing Money upon the Old Credit (we are informed) they were never regularly or effectually asked.

My

D 2

My Lord Mayor indeed was spoken to and perhaps, some of the Aldermen. But they are not the City. He sent about Cursorily to some of the Citizens to know if they would lend, of which they took little or no notice; for the Custom in such a case has always been, that some Lords of the Council, do go down to the Common Council, which is the Representative Body of the City and there propound the matter.

Besides, in this particular Case the Citizens generally asked

ed the same Questions we do,  
are the Alliances made? And  
said if they were made, then  
would they lend money, but  
if not they saw no cause for  
it.

*Philip* the second of *Spain*,  
made an observation in his  
Will, or some last Memorial,  
and it is since published by  
*Monsieur*.

He observes the Vanity of  
any Princes aspiring at the  
Universal Monarchy, for that  
it naturally made the rest of  
the World Jointly his Enemies.  
Suffers Ambition blinds men,  
D 3 them

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them not to look back upon such Experiencies. But the observation shews what is natural for others to do in such a Case, and that the way to repel and break such a design is, by the mindful Consideration.

*Philip* the Second was capable of making this observation, for in his Hands perished the *Spanish* Design of the Universal Monarchy, and that chiefly by the Conjunction of the *English* and *Dutch* against him.



In the Process of which Debate, several Gentlemen did more particularly explain themselves, and propounded to advise their Desire to the King, for a League Offensive and Defensive, with the *Dutch*, and against the *French* Power.

Against which, a specious Objection was made.

That the *Dutch* were already Treating with the *French*: And it is likely they would slip their Necks from the

D 4 Collars,

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Collars, make a separate Peace for themselves, and leave us engaged in a War with *France*.

To which it was Answered, That there was no just fear of that. The *Dutch* were Interessed in repressing the Power of *France*, as well as we; and they know their Interest. It was reasonable for them to say, If England (*which is as much concerned in this Danger*) will not assist us, We will make the best Terms for our selves we can.

There

There is yet a Seam of Land between the *French* and us. We may Trade by or under the *French*, &c. But if *England* will join with the *Dutch*, they cannot find one syllable of Reason, to desert the Common Cause.

They have observed a propensity in the People of *England* to help them; but not in the Court of *England*. If they can find that the Court does heartily join, it will above all things, Oblige and Confirm them.

In

In 1667 when the Dutch were in Peace and Plenty, when *Flanders* was a greater Bulwark to them, for the *French* had not peirced so far into it, and when the direction of their affairs, was in the Hands of an inveterate Enemy to the Crown of *England* ( *John D'mit* ) yet then, their Interests did so far govern him and them, as to enter into the *Trippl*e League against the growth and power of *France*, and keep it more down most certainly.

Therefore

Therefore now they are exhausted and weakened by War, and stand in need of our Help. Now, the *French* have approached near the Banks of their Country, and are encreased in Naval Forces, to the danger of their Trade and Navigation. And now their Affairs are chiefly directed by a Kinsman of the Crown of *England* (the Prince of *Orange*) they cannot deflect or depart from a League they make with us against our Common Enemy.

It



It was moved, That there might be a League Offensive and Defensive with *Spain* and the *Dutch*, and other Convenient Alliances with the rest of the Confederates. But the Particulars concerning *Spain*, was contracted and laid aside by the concurrent Discourse of the Members to this purpose.

*We court an Alliance with Spain above others, for they are Owners of the Neatherlands, for whose Preservation we have Addressed. That it is with Spain we have the most, if not the only profitable Trade. And the*

*and War with France.* 45

*the Spaniards are Gallant, Good, and Sure Friends, but they are remote : And we know not whether there are full Powers here or at Brussels, for this matter. And to wait for their coming from Madrid, would make Church-Work, (as they call it.) Whereas we need the swiftest Expedition.*

Therefore they Voted their Addresses to be particular and expressly for such a League with the *Dutch* and the *Spaniards*, together with the other Confederates in General.

This

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This passed with a very good Consent. There was an extraordinary full House, and upon putting the Question, there was but two Negative Voices to it.

There were other more ordinary Particulars appointed to be in the Address, but no Contest or Debate about them.

*The Vote is as follows.*

*Resolved,* That an Address  
be made to the King,  
That His Majesty will  
be

be pleased to enter into a League Offensive and Defensive, with the States General of the United Provinces, and to make such other Alliances with such other of the Confederates, as His Majesty shall think fit, against the Growth and Power of the *French* King. And for the Preservation of the *Spanish* Neatherlands; And that a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address, with Reasons why this House cannot comply with His Majesty's Speech,

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Speech, until such Alliances were enter'd into: And further shewing the necessity of a speedy making such Alliances: And when such Alliance sare made, giving His Majesty assurance of speedy and cheerful Supplies from time to time, for supporting and maintaining these Alliances.

To which the Speaker Resumed the Chair, and this being Reported, the House agreed, and appointed a Committee, and adjourned over *Ascension*



*and War with France.* 49

*scention-day, to Friday Nine a  
Clock.*

*Friday 25. 1677.*

Sir *John T——r* Reported  
from the said Commit-  
tee: But before it was  
agreed to, there was a  
Debate and Division of  
the House.

It was Observed and Ob-  
jected, That there was  
but one Reason given  
herein for declining the  
granting Money, and  
E that

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that is the Unpresidentedness. And as to one of the Instances to this purpose mentioned, (*viz.*)

The King's first *Dutch* War, it was said to be mistaken, for that 200000 *l.* was Voted before the War declared. But it was answered, That if the Declaration was not before the grant of the Money, (which remains a Query) yet 'twas certain, the War it self and great Hostilities, were before the Money.

And

And some said, There might be other Reasons assigned against giving Money, before those Alliances, but they rather desir'd to spare them; only in General said, It was not reasonable to grant Money before there was a Change, they would not say of Counsellors, but of Counsels.

And *Attary* understanding those Alliances would be the best demonstration of that Change from  
E 2 the

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the swerving from this Interest, and in part was the step by which we went away; and the restoring thereto, would restore us to our right Place and Way.

Then a Gentleman produced and read the King's Speech, made on Monday, Feb. the 1<sup>st</sup>. 1676. Wherein he speaks chiefly of the League, which afterwards when the Swedes came into it, was called the *Tripple-League*.

It begins thus;

My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

**I** am glad to see you here again, to tell you what I have done in this Interval, which I am confident, you will be pleased with, since it is so much for the Honour and Security of this Nation. I have made a League with the States of the United Provinces, and likewise a Mediation of Peace between the Two Crowns. Into which League, that of Sweedland by his

E 3

Abassa-



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Ambassador, has offer'd to enter as a Principal. I did not at our last Meeting, move you for any Aids, though I lye under great Debts, contracted in the last War. But now the posture of our Neighbours abroad, and the Consequences of this new Alliance, will oblige me for Our Security, to set out a considerable Fleet to Sea this Summer. And besides, I must build more Great Ships. And 'tis necessary that I do something in order

der to the Fortifying of  
some of our Ports, I have  
begun something my self in  
order to those ends. But  
if I have not your speedy  
Assistance, I shall not be  
able to go through with it.  
Wherefore I do earnestly  
desire you to take it in-  
to your speedy Considerati-  
on, &c.

**E4 Which**

Which shews a proper Course and Practice, that Kings Communicate first their Alliances, before they demand Supplies upon the account of them.

So this Exception was let fall.

But the main Objection managed against it, was upon the main point of the Address. In which they desired his Majesty to make a League Offensive and Defensive with the *Dutch*, and such other Alliances with the rest as he should think fit.

Those

Those which were in the Particulars, or Particularizing, spoke to this effect.

This is an Invasion of His Majesty's Prerogative, in making Peace and War, and Leagues, and it's the worse for the Distinction, which is used in respect of the *Dutch* and the rest. By which you giving him express Direction as to the *Dutch*, and reserving to his

his Discretion as to the others, it looks and gives an Umbrage as if what we were to do, were by your League. The ancient Land-mark and Boundary between the King and his People, must not be removed.

This Power is one of the few things reserved to the Crown. Parliaments are sufficient to



to treat *De Arduis*. But  
it is but *De quibusdam*  
*Arduis*. This is Un-  
presidented.

The Marriage of the  
Royal Family is such  
a particular thing re-  
served to the King,  
and the matter of the  
Lady *Arabella* is an In-  
stance.

Queen *Elizabeth* Re-  
sented it high, that  
the

the Parliament should propound her Marriage. And she said, However it was well they did not name the Person. If they had named the Person, it had been Intolerable.

Now here you name the Persons, with whom you would have the King to Ally. If you may go so far, you may come to draw up a Treaty, and propose

pose to the King to Assign it.

Lawyers can acquaint you with a Pre-  
sident in *Richard* the  
Second's time, wherein  
the King nominated  
to the Commons a mat-  
ter of Peace and War  
to be treated on, and  
they refer it back to  
him as a thing not fit  
to consult of.

By this you will put  
a great Indecorum on  
the King. He is now  
con-

concerned as a Mediator at *Nimeguen*; and it would be an undecent thing for him at the same time to declare himself a Party. Its believed the House of *Austria*, tho they sent a full Power to *Nimeguen* for that purpose, yet never intended to conclude a Peace, but it were an absurd thing of them to declare so in Publick.

Thre

There must be a publick Decorum. This is the way to have the King to have the worse Bargain with the Confederates. For the observing him how he is importuned: and as it were driven to make those Alliances, will slacken and lessen to make those advantageous Offers, which otherwise they will be forc'd to give.

And



And again they said,  
His Majesty did agree  
with the House in the  
end, and did not doubt  
but he would prosecute  
it by the same  
Means as was desir'd;  
But his Prerogative  
was not to be encroach-  
ed upon. This man-  
ner of proceeding,  
would never obtain  
with the King.

On the other side several spoke to this effect, ' We ought to consider we are upon the Question of Agreeing an Address drawn by our Committee, and by our Order. If they have not in matter and manner Corresponded with our Direction or Intention, we have Cause to disagree. But here the Exception taken, and Cause pressed, why we should not agree with them is, because they have observed the very Words and Substance of our Order, which exactly justifies this Draught,

F

I. This

I. This passed on *Wednesday* upon a full Debate, in a very full House.

II. Only contradicting, but not one then speaking, or thinking, that the King's Prerogative was touch'd : And therefore it is strange it should be made the great Objection, and Question of this Day.

But the Prerogative is not at all intrench'd upon ; we do not pretend to Treat, or make Alliances ; we only offer our Advice about them, and leave it with the King, he may do what he

he pleaseth. Either make, or not make them. It is no more than other Persons may do to the King, doubtless the *Privy Council* may advise in this particular, and why not this *Great Council*? This rate of Discourse would make the King's Prerogative consist merely in not being advised by his Parliament of all People.

There are manifold Presidents of such Advices and Leagues which have been made by advice of Parliament, and have been Ratified in Parliament in *E. 3. R. 2.* and in *Henry the 5th's* time, and especially with *Sigismond* the Emperour,

perour, and the King of the Romans. And Henry the 5th. was a magnanimous Prince, and not to be imposed upon. *Jac.* 18. the Parliament advised the King about the making and managing War. And we may well remember our own Advising the first *Dutch War*: But if that were no President in this particular Case, it were no good Objection; for matter of Advice is not to be a circumferized President. If there be a new Case, there must be a new Council. Perhaps, there is no President for such a Case, of a Prince should join in War, together with an other Prince,



Prince, when the other Prince was too potent before. And when this was discerned, and a Peace made, yet Supplies should continually go out of the first Prince's Dominions to the service of that other Prince : And that notwithstanding several Addresses and Advices to the contrary.

'Tis true (as objected ) That the Commons have sometimes declin'd in Advising in matters of War, &c. propos'd to them. But that shows not their want of Right to meddle therewith, but rather the contrary. The very truth is, it hath been the Desire and Endeavours

deavours of Kings, in all Ages, to engage their Parliaments in advising War, &c. that so they might be obliged to Supply the King to the utmost, for, and through it.

But they out of a prudent Caution have sometimes waved the matter, least they should engage further and deeper than they were aware of and willing.

Since his Majesty's Treating, as Mediator, at *Nimeguen* about the General Peace. It is a great Reason why we should specify the Alliances desired, as we have  
done,

done, that we might make it known we are far from desiring such Alliances, as might be made by and with a General Peace. But on the contrary, coveting such as might present and secure us, against that dangerous and formidable Peace. Doubtless the Confederates will offer Honourable and worthy Terms. Their necessity is too great for them to boggle, or take advantage. Nor will they think this League the less worthy, because we Advise it, but rather value it the more because it is done Unanimously by the King, with the Ad-

vice and Applause of his People in Parliament.

We cannot suppose, that our propounding this to his Majesty will prejudice our Address, or endanger its miscarriage, since it is for his Majesty's advantage. In that it obliges us to Supply him, in all Degrees, through his Affairs. And the more particular it is, the more still for the King's advantage. For if it had been more general, and the King thereupon made Alliances, whatever they were, men might have thought or said, that they were not the Alliances intended, and might  
be

be used as an Excuse, or Reason for their not giving Money. But this ( as it is now ) does most expressly, strictly and particularly bind us up.

We reflect that a great deal of time, and precious times, has been spent since our Addressing on this Subject, and finding no effectual fruit ( especially of our last Address ) we have cause to apprehend we are not clearly understood in what we mean. Now it is the ordinary way in persuing Discourse in such a Case; and it is proper and natural for us, to speak out more explicitly and particularly, and tell



tell his Majesty, that what we meant, is a League Offensive and Defensive, &c. And to perswade us to Address on in a more general Term as before, is to perswade us, that as we have done nothing these ten Weeks, so we should do nothing still.

And since his Majesty in his last Message, and last Speech, hath been pleas'd to Demand 6000000 *l.* for Answering the purpose of our Address, and assures us the Money shall not be Employ'd to other Use, than we would have it employ'd in. It is most reasonable for us to de-

declare plainly the use and purpose we intend, that so it may be Consented, and clearly understood of all hands. And therefore it is well to mention to his Majesty these expresse Alliances, we think no other Alliances worth the said Sum. And we withal promising and undertaking that his Majesty shall have this, and more for those Ends. Nor have we any Cause to apprehend, that his Majesty will take ill this our Advice in Leagues.

In this manner we have presented more than our Address, for Alliances against the *Growth*  
and

and *Power of the French.* And his Majesty hath received, admitted, and Answered them, without any manner of Exception. And if we may Address for Alliances with a particular Prince, or State, it cannot be less regular and particular than the former.

And moreover, though we know the punctual President is on our side, besides our Commissioners, by our Writs, to Treat *de arduis & urgentibus negotiis, regis statu ; & defensionem regni, & Ecclesie Anglicane concerentibus.* And besides the King's general Intimations in  
his

his printed Speech. Yet if it be said to be a decent and a proper thing to have his Majesty's Leave and Consent before we proceed on such a Matter in such a manner, as we now do; we say, that in effect it is with us too. For consider all the former Addresses, and his Majesty's Answers and Messages thereupon, it will appear, that his Majesty hath Engaged and Encouraged us too, and upon this Subject. And that which we expect, and would have is, not to Limit, or Check, or advise, but open and enlarge our Gift.

His

His Majesty appears Content to be throughly Advised; provided he be proportionably furnished and enabled, with Money, which we (being now ready to do) clearly and conclusively present him our Address for the Application of it, those Mistakes and Mistrusts which his Majesty saith, he *finds some ready to make*: As if he had called us together only to get Money from us, for other Uses than we would have it employ'd in.

And truly the Advising these Alliances, together with alluring  
ing



ring his Majesty thereupon, to assist and supply him presently and plentifully to prosecute the same, is our only way of complying and corresponding with his last Speech. For those followed, and supported by these Supplies, are the only Means and Method to put his Majesty in the best Condition, both to defend his Subjects, and to offend his Enemies. And so there will be no fault in his Majesty nor us; but his, and our Security, will sufficiently be provided for.

Besides, it will be worse, it will be a very bad thing indeed,

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deed, not to make the Address.  
For this particular, now *since*  
*we have* resolved it already, our  
Intention being to have the  
*Dutch, &c.* (comforted, and  
encouraged, and assured) we  
did Order this on *Wednesday*.

And there is Publick notice  
taken of it abroad, and beyond  
Sea: If we should not upon  
solemn Debates set the same a-  
side, it would beget a great  
Doubt, Discomfort and Dis-  
couragement to them; it is one  
thing never to have ordered it,  
another to retract it: Also it  
was said, that this was necessary;  
for suppose ( which is not cre-  
dible )

dible ) the *French* should be prevailed with, to deliver up all *Lorrain, Flanders, Alsace,* and other Conquered places ; are we safe, No. He has too many Hands, too much Money, and this Money is in great measure. A Million, sterling, yearly supplied him from hence. We must *depress him by force*, as soon as may be. And further, we must have Leagues and Laws to Impoverish them. We must destroy the *French Trade*. This would quiet and secure us. This would make our Lands rise, and would enable us to set our King at ease.

G

After

After this long Debate, the House came to the Question: Whether this particular League Offensive and Defensive, with the *Dutch*, should be left out in the Address? Upon which Question, the House divided.

Yea's 142. Noe's 182.

So that it was carried by 40 that it should stand.

The main Question was put for Agreeing with the Committee to the Address, which passed in the Affirmative without Division of the House.

Then it was Ordered, that those Members of the House, who

vvhoo vvere of his Majesty's Privy Council, should move his Majesty to knowv his pleasure, vvhenn the House might vwait upon him vvith the Address.

Mr. *Poole* reported from the Committee, of Amendments to the Bill for the Recalling his Majesty's Subjects out of the *French* King's service, vvvhich vvvere read and agreed to by the House, and the Bill, vvwith the Amendments, ordered to be Engrossed.

*Saturday, May 26 1677.*

The House being Sate, and Notice by Mr. Secretary *Coventry*, that the King would receive  
G 2 their



their Address at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon. Then the Bill for recalling his Majesty's Subjects ( being Engrosfed ) was Read a Third time, and Passed.

The effect of it, in short, is this, That all and every of his Majesty's born Subjects, who should continue or be, after the first day of *August* next, in the Military Service of the *French* King, should be disinabled to inherit any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, and be incapable of any Gift, Grant, or Legacy, or to be Executor, or Administrator, and (being

con-

convicted) should be adjudged Guilty of Felony without Benefit of Clergy, and not pardonable by his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, accept only by Act of Parliament, wherein such Offender should be particularly Named,

The like Appointment touching such as should continue in the Sea Service of the *French* King after the tenth day of *May* 1678. This Act as to the prohibiting that Offence, and inflicting the Penalties, to continue but for 2 Years. But the Executing and Proceeding upon it, for Offences against the

G 3                      Act,

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Act, might be at any time as well after, as within two Years.

Then it was ordered, that Mr. Poole should carry up the Bill to the Lords, and with all, put the Lords in mind of a Bill for the better suppressing the Growth of Popery, which they had sent up to the Lords before *Easter*, which was forthwith done accordingly.

As soon as this was Ordered, several other Bills were moved to be Read, &c. but the Members generally said, No. They would proceed on nothing but the *French and Popery*, and so Adjourn'd

journd to the Afternoon, when they attended the King with their Address in the *Banquetting-House* at *White-hall* (which being presented) the King answer'd that it was long, and of great Importance: That he would consider of, and give them an Answer as soon as he could.

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*Monday, May 28. 1677.*

The House being sate, they received Notice by *Mr. Secretary Coventry*, that the King expected them immediately at the *Banquetting House*: (vvhich vvhen

G 4

being

being come) The King made a Speech to them on the subject of the Address, vvhich Speech ( to prevent Mistakes ) his Majesty read out of the Paper, and then deliver'd the same to the Speaker ; and his Majesty added a few Words about the Adjournment. Upon this they returning to the House, the Speaker read the King's Speech, which vvas as follovvs.

GENTLEMEN,

*Gentlemen*

‘ **C**ould I have been silent,  
 ‘ I would rather have  
 ‘ chosen to be so, than to call to  
 ‘ mind things so unfit for you  
 ‘ to meddle vvith, as are con-  
 tain'd



tain'd in some parts of your last  
Address, vvherein you have  
entrench'd upon so undoubted  
a Right of the Crown, that  
I am confident it vwill appear  
in no Age ( vvhhen the Sword  
vvas not drawn ) that the Pre-  
rogative of making Peace and  
War hath been so dangerously  
invaded.

You do not content your  
selves with desiring Me to en-  
ter into such Leagues, as may  
be for the safety of the King-  
dom, but you tell Me what sort  
of Leagues they must be, and  
with whom, ( and as your Ad-  
dress is worded ) it is more lia-  
ble to be understood to be by  
your

‘ your Leave, than at your Re-  
‘ quest, that I should make such  
‘ other Alliances, as I please,  
‘ with other of the Confederates.

‘ Should I suffer this funda-  
‘ mental Power of making Peace  
‘ and War to be so far invaded,  
‘ (though but once) as to have  
‘ the manner and circumstances  
‘ of Leagues prescribed to Me  
‘ by Parliament, it’s plain that  
‘ no Prince or State would any  
‘ longer believe that the Sove-  
‘ reignty of *England* rests in the  
‘ Crown. Nor could I think  
‘ My Self to signifie any more  
‘ to Foreign Princes, than the  
‘ empty Sound of a King.  
‘ Wherefore you may rest assu-  
red

‘red, that no Condition shall  
‘make Me depart from, or les-  
‘son so essential a part of the  
‘Monarchy. And I am willing  
‘to believe so well of this House  
‘of Commons, that I am con-  
‘fident these ill Consequences  
‘are not intended by you.

‘These are in short the Rea-  
‘sons, why I can by no means  
‘approve of your Address, and  
‘yet though you have declined  
‘to grant me that Supply which  
‘is so necessary to the Ends of  
‘it, I do again declare to you,  
‘That as I have done all that  
‘lay in my Power since your last  
‘Meeting, so I will still apply  
‘my self by all the means I can,  
to

' to let the World see my Care  
 ' both for the Security and Sa-  
 ' tisfaction of my People, altho  
 ' it may not be with those Ad-  
 ' vantages to them, which by  
 ' your Assistances I might have  
 ' procured.

*And then the Speaker reported what his Majesty added by Word of Mouth.*

That His Majesty was farther plea-  
 sed to declare His pleasure to them,  
 that the House should be Adjourned  
 till the 16th of *July* next, telling them  
 He would give them notice by His  
 Proclamation when His Majesty in-  
 tended they should Sit again; which  
 His Majesty was pleased to say should  
 not be till the Winter, unless there  
 were some extraordinary occasion of  
 calling them sooner.

And accordingly being returned to  
*Westminster*, the House of Commons  
 was Adjourned till the 16 of *July* next.

Then

Then a Member standing up to speak, and many calling for him to be heard ; the Speaker said, *No*, none ought to be heard after the King had required and Order'd their Adjournment, and said the King had Order'd them to Adjourn. Whereupon several said that He cou'd not Adjourn them ; but it was, they must Adjourn themselves, and that he could not leave the Chair, but by a Question, and the Vote of the House, and offer'd to shew a President of Sitting after Direction from the King to Adjourn. But the Speaker said, *No*, they were not to be, since the King had determined



mined as he had, and said, they were Adjourn'd till the 16<sup>th</sup>. of *July* next, and so hastily went out of the Chair.

*Monday, July 16. 1677.*

The Parliament meet-again, but only in order to Adjourn. In the House of Commons the Prayers were read, and the ordinary Prayer for the blessing the Councils of the Parliament, and then the Speaker took the Chair, and Mr. Secretary *Coven-try* signified to the House his Majesty's pleasure, that they should Adjourn themselves immediately till *December* the 3<sup>d</sup>. which Message the Speaker reported,

ported, and the fate down again, perhaps, in expectation of a Motion to be made to Adjourn accordingly.

But there was no such *Motion* expressly made; only some cried, *the Question, the Question, &c.*

My Lord *Ca——ish* moved, that their last Order might be Read, meaning the Order about the last Adjournment; to the end they might take notice of the Authority by which they met here now; and this, was said, was usual and regular to be done.

*Mr. Williams* seconded the Motion, and said, he did it the rather, because there had been  
some

some Discourse of some Informality in the last Adjournment. Thereupon presently the Speaker rose up and said, *Gentlemen, The King has Commanded that the House be Adjourn'd till the 3d. of December,* and then went immediately from the Chair, and out of the House, in the same manner as the last time; several Members saying, It ought to have been done by a Question, and some speaking hard Words after the Speaker. There were near Two hundred Members in the House, &c.

F I N I S.



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